

IAP16 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 SEP 2006

10/593489

PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 0095/025001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Tooru SEKIYA et al. Art Unit:  
Application No.: filed concurrently Examiner:  
Title: SWELLING/CONTRACTING FILTER  
International Application No.: PCT/JP2005/005187  
International Filing Date : March 23, 2005  
Priority Date : March 25, 2004  
U.S. Filing Date : September 20, 2006

**Mail Stop PCT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56(a), applicant requests that the references cited on attached form PTO-1449 (a copy of which is enclosed) be considered by the Examiner in connection with the search of the prior art required by 37 CFR 1.104.

Enclosed also please find a copy of the International Search Report citing three references. The relevance of these references can be seen from the International Search Report. The English abstract of the Japanese Patent Application of these references are also enclosed.

Please also note that Japanese Patent No. 2766959 is discussed on page 2 of the specification.

Please also note that the English language translation of Japanese Patent No. 2766959 is also enclosed. Please also note that this English translation is machine translation provided by the Japan Patent Office and the Japan Patent Office states that the translation may not precisely reflect the original Japanese text.

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Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants: Tooru SEKIYA et al.

Title: SWELLING/CONTRACTING FILTER

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This Statement is being filed under 37 CFR 1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached at the telephone number listed below. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Randolph A. Smith  
Reg. No. 32,548

Date: September 20, 2006

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>	<b>Complete if Known</b>	
	Application Number	Filed concurrently
	Filing Date	September 20, 2006
	Applicants	Tooru SEKIYA et al.
	Group Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of 1
	Attorney Docket Number	0095/025001

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

*\*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.*

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<sup>8</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.